

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

PORTSMOUTH, NH
TIME: 6:00PM

Assistant Mayor Kelley moved to close the Non-Public Session and seal the minutes. Seconded by Councilor Tabor and voted.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McEachern called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor McEachern, Assistant Mayor Kelley, Councilors Tabor, Cook, Denton, Blalock, Bagley, Moreau and Lombardi

Mayor McEachern introduced Attorney Peter Loughlin who will be representing the City Council this evening as Counsel.

V. ADOPTION OF RULES FOR THE PROCEEDING

Attorney Peter Loughlin explained that City Clerk Barnaby will be swearing in anyone that plans to provide public comment.

VI. SWEARING IN OF ALL WITNESSES

City Clerk Barnaby administered the oath swearing in the witnesses and anyone wishing to speak at public comment.

VII. READING OF CHARGE

Mayor McEachern read the charge against Mr. James Hewitt.

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF PARTIES FOR THE RECORD

Mayor McEachern noted that City Attorney Morrell, Deputy City Attorney McCourt and Synthia Ravell are representing the City of Portsmouth.

Attorney Eggleton is representing Mr. James Hewitt in this matter.

Councilor Denton recused himself from the hearing.

Attorney Loughlin read the law regarding prejudgment in a case. Councilor Denton stepped down from the dais.

IX. INITIAL STATEMENTS BY COUNSEL

City Attorney Morrell and Attorney Eggleton made their opening statements.

X. PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

City Attorney Morrell called Robert Sullivan as a witness and conducted a direct examination of Robert Sullivan.

Attorney Eggleton conducted a cross examination of Robert Sullivan.

Councilor Cook asked questions of Mr. Sullivan.

Mr. Sullivan was released as a witness.

At 8:40 p.m., Mayor McEachern called for a brief recess. At 8:50 p.m., Mayor McEachern called the meeting back to order.

City Attorney Morrell called Rick Chellman as a witness and conducted a direct examination of Mr. Chellman.

Attorney Eggleton conducted a cross examination of Mr. Chellman.

Mayor McEachern said he has not prejudged the case.

Councilors Tabor and Cook and Mayor MacEachern asked questions of Mr. Chellman.

Mr. Chellman was released as a witness.

Mayor McEachern said the hearing will be continued with the remainder of the meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.

At 11:10 p.m., everyone left the chambers.

Trevor P. McCourt
Deputy City Attorney